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memo for the record

DD/S&T 3718-69

19 September 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: R&D Representatives Meeting FY 72-76 Program

In developing the Agency R&D program last year it became evident that some initial effort prior to the Combined Program Call to the Directorates would be very helpful in developing both the R&D and Directorate plans more effectively and efficiently. Meetings held September 16 and 17 accomplished the following:

1. A proposed modification of the R&D program structure was described by [redacted]. This new program structure was discussed in detail, and it was the consensus that the proposed structure represents a substantial improvement. Further consideration will be given to a few details with the objective of resolving these promptly.

2. Although the initial effort last year was generally helpful, it was apparent that the rationale for the R&D program should be developed and presented in such a way as to be more readily understood by the Deputy Directors, the Bureau of the Budget, and others who review the total R&D program. Hopefully, the relationship between specific R&D contracts and projects to specific Agency objectives should be clear, i. e., the derivation of the R&D program from Agency needs should be explicit. A possible format for organizing and presenting the program to illustrate this relationship was considered in detail using the audio program as an example. Depending upon the particular program involved, the ability to explicitly relate the program to precise needs may be limited for reasons of security, etc. However, it should be possible to achieve approximately the same degree of communication regarding R&D needs by paraphrasing the true requirement. This sort of approach may be useful in treating several of the R&D program elements. Further consideration will be given to the degree to which

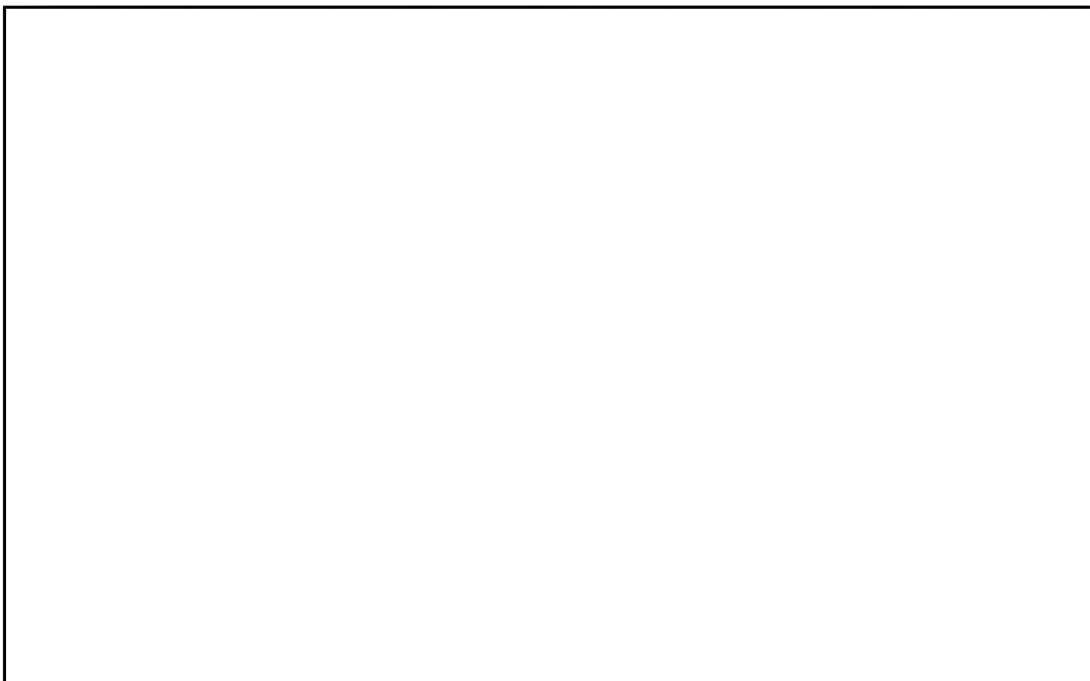
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approach may be developed.

3. An effort was made to identify areas where there may be long-term R&D requirements for which the needs are so diverse that they are not readily apparent within any existing organizational element. Several candidate areas for such study were identified.

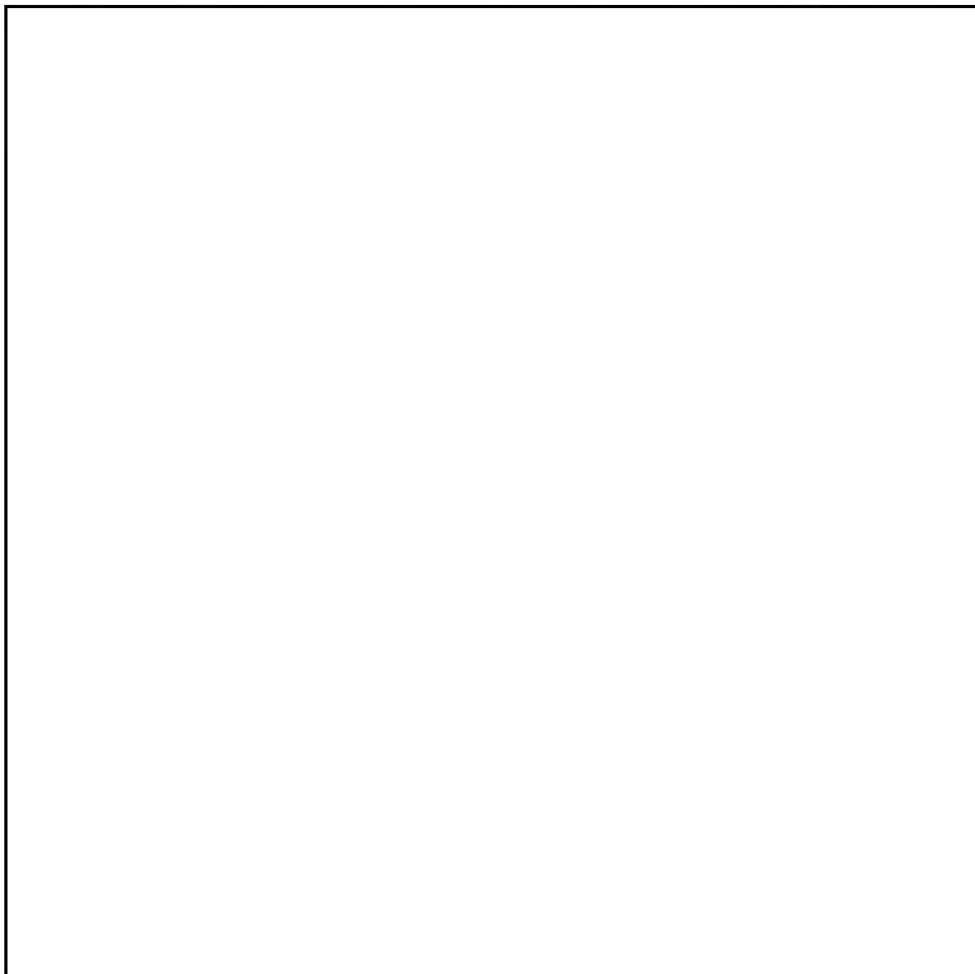
a. As an example of such a problem the various collection efforts which have been initiated from time to time related to the Chicom missile development program were briefly reviewed. A speculative description of the possible future interrelationships of community collection assets which might be employed was developed from which it became apparent that an analysis of what needs to be done, what is currently available, and what needs to be developed should be initiated. For example, the number and types of collection devices and their technical and operational relationships to existing and forthcoming systems should be developed in detail so that important R&D problems may be identified. NIPE, who is completing a study of this particular area, participated in this discussion; concurred that such a study would be useful, and suggested that it should be broadened to treat the total Chinese strategic weapon program.



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4. From time to time problems of compartmentation or security have hindered the efforts of the Directorate R&D representatives in understanding the objectives and needs associated with various R&D programs. The identification of R&D gaps, duplication, etc., cannot be fully achieved and further, the synergistic benefits may not be enjoyed--under these circumstances. Efforts will be made to achieve a full understanding of the R&D implications without jeopardizing security.

5. Duplication and confusion may result from the inclusion of the R&D program in an R&D Program Plan as well as in each Directorate Plan, when budget and other changes occur. It was proposed that consideration be given to the development of a single R&D Program Plan in which the various office as well as program element structures were fully developed,

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and that reference to this memorandum be made in each Directorate Program Memorandum in lieu of duplicating the information. This procedure will be discussed with respect to acceptance by the Directorates at the next meeting.

6. The R&D representatives will meet at 1 o'clock 24 September in the OPPB Tank to complete action on the R&D program structure modification and discuss the content of initial R&D program submissions in order to develop an initial plan by 1 November 1969.

7. Attendees were:

16 September

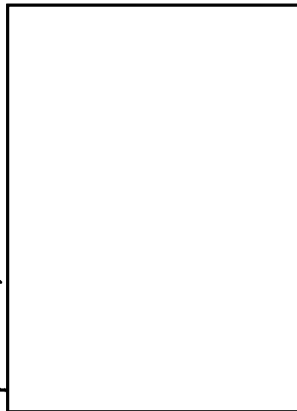
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17 September

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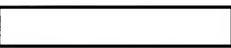
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 (NIPE) attended the discussion on Chinese Strategic Weapon data collection on 16 September.

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Special Assistant to the
R&D Coordinator

Distribution:

1 - R&D Coordinator

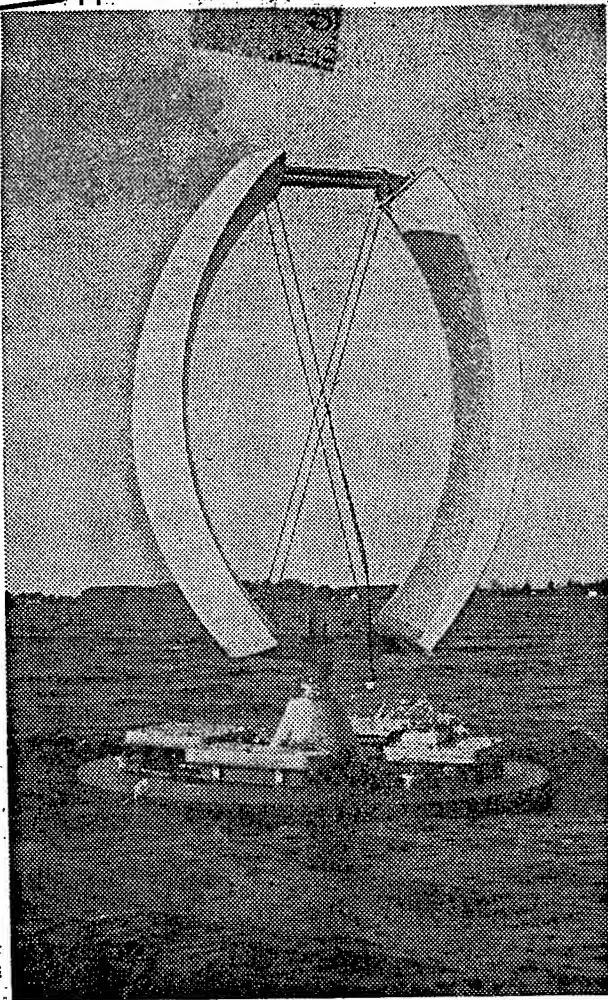
1 - Each R&D Representative

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SKAMP INDEED!

RCA calls this robot sailboat the Skamp, for Station Keeping and Mobile Platform, of course. RCA said the electronically controlled craft is capable of carrying out a wide range of military, scientific and commercial missions. It can, for example, remain within two-tenths of a nautical mile of its assigned position for up to a year without mooring. The 16-foot-tall buoy-like vessel can sail itself to any point on the world's seas, change course or sail home by radio command from U.S. Navy Navigation Satellites. Its sails are made of foam-filled plastic.

Paul -

This appeared in the
Sunday Star.

A Wall St Journal
article on Thursday
said the device could
stay within a half mile
circle - and said
further that RCA was
planning to build one
with a substantially
larger base - 22' dia,
I believe.

Those sails & the
cross braces just
look like big antennas!

Ry

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